

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A server network comprising:
  - 2 a plurality of cluster nodes connected via a SAN according to a SAN-based
  - 3 protocol; and
  - 4 at least first and second router nodes bridging the plurality of cluster nodes to a
  - 5 LAN,  
6 wherein the router nodes are connected to the plurality of cluster nodes via the  
7 SAN according to the SAN-based protocol.

- 1 2. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein the router nodes are
- 2 connected to the LAN via a LAN-based protocol.

- 1 3. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 2, wherein the LAN-based protocol
- 2 is TCP/IP.

- 1 4. (Cancelled)

- 1 5. (Currently Amended) The network of claim [[4]] 1, wherein the SAN-based
- 2 protocol is one of ~~INFINIBAND~~ INFINIBAND, Next Generation I/O (NGIO), and Future I/O
- 3 (FIO).

- 1 6. (Cancelled)

- 1 7. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein the second router node
- 2 bridges to the plurality of cluster nodes after the first router node fails-over to the second router
- 3 node.

1           8. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein the first and second  
2    router nodes bridge to the plurality of cluster nodes in parallel.

1           9. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein each router node  
2    comprises a session management agent for maintaining session information for sessions between  
3    the router node and a cluster node of the plurality of cluster nodes.

1           10. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein each router node  
2    comprises a policy management agent for maintaining connection information and routing  
3    policies for the plurality of cluster nodes.

1           11. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein each router node  
2    comprises a routing agent for maintaining connection information for the plurality of cluster  
3    nodes.

1           12. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein each router node  
2    comprises a filter agent for bidirectional conversion between the SAN based protocol and a LAN  
3    based protocol.

1           13. (Previously Presented) A server network comprising:  
2                a plurality of cluster nodes connected via a SAN according to a SAN-based  
3    protocol; and  
4                at least one router node bridging the plurality of cluster nodes to a LAN,  
5                wherein at least one cluster node comprises a management node for setting  
6    routing policies on the router node.

1           14. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 13, wherein the management node  
2    comprises a monitoring agent for obtaining statistics from the router node.

1        15. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein a cluster node of the  
2        plurality of cluster nodes comprises a session management agent for holding session information.

1        16. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein a cluster node comprises  
2        a policy management agent for maintaining routing policies for the plurality of cluster nodes.

1        17. (Previously Presented) A method of bridging a remote LAN client and plural  
2        SAN cluster nodes, comprising:

3                receiving a request to establish a connection from the remote LAN client;  
4                in response to the received request, accessing information that maps service types  
5        to respective SAN cluster nodes;

6                based on a service type specified by the received request and based on accessing  
7        the information, selecting one of the plural SAN cluster nodes;

8                receiving a LAN protocol communication from the remote LAN client;

9                transforming the LAN protocol communication into a SAN protocol  
10      communication; and

11                sending the SAN protocol communication to the selected one of the SAN cluster  
12      nodes.

1        18. (Cancelled)

1        19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising:  
2                maintaining statistical information for the SAN cluster nodes.

1        20 - 21. (Cancelled)

1           22. (Previously Presented) A router comprising:  
2                   a session management agent to maintain session information for sessions with a  
3                   plurality of cluster nodes over a LAN;  
4                   a routing agent to maintain connection information for the plurality of cluster  
5                   nodes connected via a SAN according to a SAN-based protocol, wherein the connection  
6                   information maps service types to respective cluster nodes,  
7                   the routing agent to receive a service request that specifies a service type, and the  
8                   routing agent to select one of the cluster nodes based on the specified service type and the  
9                   connection information; and  
10                  a filter agent to convert between the SAN-based protocol and a LAN-based  
11                  protocol.

1           23. (Original) The router of claim 22, further comprising:  
2                   a policy management agent to maintain routing policies for the plurality of cluster  
3                   nodes.

1           24. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 22, wherein the connection  
2                   information comprises a policy table.

1           25. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 22, wherein the SAN-based protocol  
2                   is different from the LAN-based protocol.

1           26. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 22, wherein the connection  
2                   information further comprises information to indicate authentications to be performed for  
3                   respective service types.

1           27. (Previously Presented) The router of claim 22, wherein the connection  
2                   information further comprises weighting factor information to indicate a proportion of service  
3                   requests to be directed to a respective cluster node for a particular service type.

1           28. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 1, wherein the cluster nodes  
2 connected via the SAN are viewed by a remote client as being assigned a single IP address.

1           29. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 2, wherein each router node  
2 includes an agent to convert between communication according to the SAN-based protocol and  
3 communication according to the LAN-based protocol, the SAN-based protocol being different  
4 from the LAN-based protocol.

1           30. (Previously Presented) The network of claim 29, wherein each router node stores  
2 session information to route data from remote LAN clients to the cluster nodes.

1           31. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:  
2                   receiving, by a router, a service request from a client over a LAN that operates  
3 according to a LAN-based protocol;  
4                   in response to the service request, the router accessing connection information  
5 mapping service types to respective SAN nodes that are interconnected by a SAN that operates  
6 according to a SAN-based protocol, the SAN-based protocol being different from the LAN-  
7 based protocol; and  
8                   in response to a service type requested by the service request and based on the  
9 connection information, the router selecting one of the SAN nodes to establish a connection  
10 between the client and selected SAN node.